

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA: STATEMENT BY TASSOS PAPADOP-
OULOS AT GREEK CYPRIOT DELEGATION PRESS CONFERENCE, APRIL 7, VIENNA

1. TASSOS PAPADOPOULOS, GREEK CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR WHO HEADED
GREEK CYPRIOT DELEGATION TO CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA,
MARCH 31- APRIL 7, HELD PRESS CONFERENCE MID-AFTERNOON
APRIL 7 AT WHICH HE DISTRIBUTED FOLLOWING STATEMENT.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

ON THE 12TH OF FEBRUARY 1977, AT A MEETING OF
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC HIS BEATITUDE ARCHBISHOP
MAKARIOS WITH MR. RAOUF DENKTASH, IN NICOSIA, IN THE
PRESENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL
DR. WALDHEIM, FOUR GUIDELINES WERE RECORDED FOR THE
TWO INTERLOCUTORS. THESE GUIDELINES ARE AS FOLLOWS:
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"(1) WE ARE SEEKING AN INDEPENDNE, NON-ALIGNED,
BI-COMMUNAL FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

(2) THE TERRITORY UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF EACH
COMMUNITY SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN THE LIGHT OF
ECONOMIC VIABILITY OR PRODUCTIVITY AND

LAND-OWNERSHIP.

(3) QUESTIONS OF PRINCIPLES LIKE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, FREEDOM OF SETTLEMENT, THE RIGHT OF PROPERTY AND OTHER SPECIFIC MATTERS ARE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE FUNDAMENTAL BASIS OF A BI-COMMUNAL FEDERAL SYSTEM AND CERTAIN PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES WHICH MAY ARISE FOR THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY.

(4) THE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE CENTRAL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL BE SUCH AS TO SAFEGUARD THE UNITY

OF THE COUNTRY, HAVING REGARD TO THE BI-COMMUNAL CHARACTER OF THE STATE".

CONCERTED AND SUSTAINED EFFORTS WERE THEN MADE FOR THE RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS ON THE BASIS OF THESE FOUR GUIDELINES. SINCE ON ALL PREVIOUS OCCASIONS EFFORTS FOR SERIOUS TALKS HAD FAILED, IT WAS AGREED THIS TIME THAT THE TWO SIDES WOULD UNDERTAKE CERTAIN VERY SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS AS REGARDS THE RESUMPTION AND CONDUCT OF THE TALKS, SO THAT THE TALKS MIGHT REALLY BE RENDERED MEANINGFUL AND SUBSTANTIVE. THE COMMITMENTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE TWO SIDES WERE:

(1) THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE WOULD DURING THE TALKS

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TAKE THE INITIATIVE ON THE TERRITORIAL ASPECT BY SUBMITTING PROPOSALS ON THIS ASPECT ACCOMPANIED BY A MAP, WITHIN THE

FRAMEWORK OF THE FOUR GUIDELINES.

(2) THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE WOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECT BY SUBMITTING PROPOSALS ON THIS ASPECT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FOUR GUIDELINES. ALSO, BOTH SIDES SOLEMNLY UNDERTOOK TO DISCUSS IN A REALLY MEANINGFUL AND SUBSTANTIVE WAY EACH OTHER'S PROPOSALS.

SINCE, HOWEVER, ON THE BASIS OF PAST EXPERIENCE, IT WAS THOUGHT THAT, EVEN IN THE PHRASE "IN A MEANINGFUL AND SUBSTANTIVE WAY" ROOM COULD TO BE FOUND FOR EVASIVENESS, THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE ASKED THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS FOR CLEAR EXPLANATIONS AND OR ARGUMENTS WHY OUR PROPOSALS

MIGHT BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED, IN ANY WAY, AS "MEANINGFUL AND SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS". SUCH CLEAR ASSURANCES WERE GIVEN. WE WERE ASSURED THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE WOULD NOT, AT VIENNA, BE LIMITING ITSELF TO MERE COMMENTS OR MER EXPLANATIONS WHY OUR TERRITORIAL PROPOSALS WERE TO BE REJECTED.

ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE VIENNA TALKS THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE SUBMITTED ITS PROPOSALS ON THE TERRITORAIL ISSUE, ACCOMPANIED BY A MAP TOGETHER WITH THE BASIC PRINCIPLES PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSALS. THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE, HOWEVER, AND DESPITE THE ASSURANCES GIVEN, LIMITED THEMSELVES TO MERE COMMENTS ON OUR PROPOSALS AND TO EXPLAINING WHY THEY FOUND OUR PROPOSAL UNACCEPTABLE. WE DO NOT CONSIDER THIS AS AMOUNTING TO "MEANGINGFUL AND SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATION", ON THE TERRITORIAL ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM. AS A RESULT, DURING THIS ROUND UNCLASSIFIED

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OF TALKS, NO PICTURE, CLEAR OR OTHERWISE EMERGED OF THE TURKISH VIEWS ON THE IMPORTANT ISSUE OF TERRITORY. IN FACT, THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE, ON THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE, STATED THAT THEY DID NOT COME TO VIENNA EITHER TO GIVE ANYTHING BACK OR TO INDICATE WHAT THEY INTENDED TO KEEP

TURNING NOW TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECT: THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE ON THE SECOND DAY OF THE TALKS SUBMITTED THEIR OWN PROPOSALS ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECT. IT IS OUR VIEW THAT THESE PROPOSALS DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE GUIDELINES, SINCE THEY ARE NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE CONCEPT OF A FEDERAL STATE. IN ACTUAL FACT, THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE CONCEDED THAT THEIR PROPOSALS AIMED AT THE SETTING UP OF TWO SEPARATE STATES LOOSELY CONNECTED IN A WAY WHICH MIGHT, BUT ONLY MIGHT, IN THE FUTURE LEAD TO WHAT THEY TERMED "FEDERATION BY EVOLUTION". THIS IS A CONSTITUTIONAL PARADOX. NEVERTHELESS, THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE DID NOT LIMIT ITSELF TO REJECTING THESE PROPOSALS, THOUGH THEY DID NOT COMPLY WITH THE GUIDELINES, BUT PROCEEDED TO PRESENT CONCRETE AND EXTENSIVE VIEWS ON THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS AND IN ADDITION SUBMITTED ITS OWN COUNTER-PROPOSALS ON THIS ASPECT, CONTAINING THE BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FEDERAL STATE IN CYPRUS, AS ENVISAGED IN THE GUIDELINES.

FROM WHAT I HAVE ALREADY SAID IT IS EVIDENT THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE HAS HONOURED ALL ITS COMMITMENTS AND FULLY COMPLIED WITH ALL ITS UNDERTAKINGS.

DESPITE THE EXISTING WIDE AND CONSIDERABLE GAP BETWEEN

THE TWO SIDES, WHICH GAP HAS NOT BEEN BRIDGED, YHE GREEK
CYPRIOT SIDE HAS AGREED TO MEETINGS IN NICOSIA SO THAT
NEW EFFORTS MAY BE MADE. I CANNOT AT THIS STAGE BE
OPTIMISTIC THAT THIS EFFORT WILL PROVE FRUITFUL,
AND I ONLY HOPE THAT A CHANGE IN THE ATTITUDE OF THE
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TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE TOWARDS THT TALKS MAY BE FORTHCOMING.
SUCH CHANGE WOULD BE DEMONSTRATED BY THEIR BEING READY
TO DISCUSS IN A REALLY MEANINGFUL AND SUBSTANTIVE WAY
OUR PROPOSALS ON THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE, WHILE AT THE
SAME TIME RECONSIDERING THEIR PROPOSALS ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL
ASPECT, SO THAT THEY WOULD CONFORM WITH THE GUIDELINES,
ON OUR SIDE, WE SHALL CONTINUE TO BE CONSTRUCTIVE. WE STILL
HOLD FIRMLY THE VIEW THAT THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS, UNDER THE
AUSPICES AND PERSONAL DIRECTION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE U.N., WITHIN THE U.N. RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS,
REMAINS THE BEST COURSE FOR SEEKING A PEACEFUL, FAIR
AND VIABLE SOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

WE EXPRESS OUR DEEP GRATITUDE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
DR. KURT WALDHEIM, HIS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE MR. JAVIER
PEREZ DE CUELLAR AND HIS ASSISTANTS, FOR THE INTEREST THEY
CONSTANTLY TAKE IN OUR PROBLEM AND THE DEEP APPRECIATION
OF ALL THEY HAVE DONE AND CONTINUE TO BE DOING TOWARDS A
SOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

I ALSO EXPRSS MY SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST
AND COOPERATION AND FOR AKING THE TROUBLE OF PARTICIPATING
IN THIS CONFERENCE AND FOR ALLOWING ME TO STATE THE VIEWS
OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE. END TEXT. MEEHAN

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